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In This Issue...

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In This Issue ...

Planning Ahead – Upcoming Aquatic-Related Conferences

Shortly after this issue becomes publicly available in late October, Rescue 2012 will be held in Adelaide, South Australia, from November 7-18, 2012 and will include five separate competitions: World National Team Championships, World Interclub Championships, World Masters Championships, World Surf Boat Championships, and World Inflatable Rescue Boat Championships. For more information, consult the URL, <http://www.rescue2012.com.au/>.

This is the second reminder that a general invitation and a call for abstracts have been issued for the 1st European Conference of Evidence-Based Aquatic Therapy (ECEBAT) to be held in March 2013 in Izmir, Turkey. Questions can be addressed to Johan Lambeck, the Chair of the Scientific Committee and one of the members of the *IJARE* Editorial Board. Further information about dates, registration, abstract, and workshop proposal submissions may be located at www.aquatherapy2013.org.

Advanced information for the 2013 International Life Saving World Conference on Drowning Prevention scheduled Saturday, 19 October, 2013 to Tuesday, 22 October, 2013 in Potsdam/Berlin, Germany (organized by the German Life Saving Association) can be found at the following URL: <http://www.worldconferenceondrowningprevention.org>

In This Issue

As readers have come to expect of an issue of the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education*, you will be able to locate informative, evidenced-based studies coming from a variety of areas within the non-competitive areas of aquatics, water safety, and swimming. I trust you will find that our final issue of the sixth volume is no exception to our ongoing tradition.

My invitation to readers stands to contribute a Letter to the Editor whenever you find an article that stimulates some kind of response, either positive or negative. Our current issue is no exception. As you will read, Chris Brewster has offered another of his interesting and provocative Letters. This time, Chris has challenged some conclusions drawn by Dr. Lanigan-Leitzel's article in our August issue about the apparent lack of observation skills by the lifeguard instructors and lifeguards who participated in her study. As you will read in his short missive, Chris raises the question about the role that different aquatic agencies may play in developing observation and scanning skills by guards. He contends that the study should not necessarily have painted all lifeguards with the same broad brush.

I have composed another of my editorials to lead off this issue. As you will read, this editorial was stimulated by an intriguing e-mail I received from an old and fond acquaintance, Professor Laercio Pereira, who I have only met once face-to-face during a remarkable week in Brazil way back in 1994. Laercio's e-mail alerted me to a perceived need in our field to compile and translate the latest scientific, evidence-based information into a more readily understandable form for swimming instructors and other aquatic practitioners. I hope you will be challenged by my initial musings on how to address a response to Laercio.

Research Articles

I need to be the first to confess that this particular issue has taken shape very slowly and in many fits and starts. At times it felt like it might never take shape. Despite my personal trials in pulling it together, I believe that as published, it contains six outstanding, yet diverse, aquatic research papers.

The first paper, "Hydration Status of Lifesaving Athletes During International Competition," was authored by Wade Sinclair, James Cook University and Nick Marshall, Surf Life Physio, both from Queensland, Australia. Because of the unique topic of this paper, a relatively large number of reviewers were consulted for feedback. They were unanimous in their excitement about the topic of the study and its importance to the area of competitive lifesaving competitions.

Kasee Hildenbrand, Celestina Barbosa-Leiker, and Daniel Melchior, all from Washington State University, have co-authored "Different Immersion Temperatures' Impact upon Blood Pressure of Individuals With Varied Sex and Age." The basic research explored in this study manipulated water temperatures and observed several measures of blood pressure and cardiac functioning and arrived at some unexpected findings that you will want to explore.

The topic of how best to help parents learn infant or child CPR was explored by Kevin Moran (University of Auckland), Teresa Stanley (Water Safe Auckland, Inc), and Alicia Rutherford (University of Auckland) in their paper, "Toddler Drowning Prevention: Teaching Parents About Child CPR in Conjunction With Their Child's In-Water Lessons." The interesting lessons learned from this New Zealand study have implications for concomitant parent education that ought to accompany swim lessons offered to young children.

Richard Franklin (James Cook University and Royal Life Saving Society) and John Pearn (Royal Life Saving Society and Royal Children's Hospital), both of Queensland, Australia have offered a treatise, "The Impulse to Rescue: Rescue Altruism and the Challenge of Saving the Rescuer." They have studied a number of drownings suffered by rescuers and offer their reflections about an all-too-common drowning phenomenon.

The penultimate research paper in this issue comes from Damian Morgan and Joan Ozanne-Smith, both representing Monash University, in Victoria, Australia. Their paper, "Surf Bather Drowning Risk and Exposure-Related Factors Identified by an Expert Panel," is a measurement-related paper exploring the content validity associated with drowning and drowning risk exposure factors at surf beaches in Australia.

“Intra-Individual Head Depth Variability During the Competitive Swim Start” is yet another fascinating study related to the risk of head and spinal cord injuries during competitive racing starts that is the product of collaboration among Andrew Cornett (now of Eastern Michigan University), Hiroki Naganobori, and Joel Stager (both of the Councilman Center for Aquatic Research at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN). This study is one of the first in aquatics of which I am familiar to address risk using the concept of intra-individual variability.

Media Reviews

Over the past several months, I have received two recently-released monographs for which I offer short media reviews as a way to introduce these works to readers who may find them of interest for personal or professional reading.

The first media review addresses an anthology, *The Swim Coaching Bible Volume II*, edited by Dick Hannula and Nort Thornton and published by Human Kinetics in 2012. This 350-page soft cover text compiles 25 chapters divided into five topics related to competitive swimming that were written by some of the most elite swim coaches in the U.S..

My review of a second, shorter 150-page compiled volume, *Science in Swimming III*, edited by Krystyna Zaton, Marek Rejman, and Anna Kwasna, comes from our colleagues in Poland from 2011. It provides an interesting view about how the Polish aquatic community is striving to develop scientific evidence through a regular symposium with the goal of improving not just competitive swimming but also swimming instruction.

Recognizing Volume Reviewers

In the fourth issue of each volume, I have the opportunity to identify those individuals who have provided one or more scholarly peer reviews for the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* during the past year. In this past volume, we have had a substantial increase in the number of different reviewers including many who have contributed to *IJARE* for the first time.

I particularly like to take the time in this issue to thank all of you who so selflessly gave hours of your time reviewing submitted manuscripts and providing such fine critical and constructive feedback to authors. Without our scholarly blind peer review process, *IJARE* simply could not exist. I, the Editorial Board, and Human Kinetics Publishers are indebted to each of you who has served as a reviewer in this most recent volume.

Until our next issue, the first in the seventh volume in February of 2013, I wish you good reading and safe swimming.

*Steve Langendorfer, Editor
International Journal of
Aquatic Research and Education*